

A NETWORKING PROFESSIONAL'S TOOLKIT

Throughout this book you have learned about the variety of tools you may use while implementing, analyzing, and troubleshooting a network. Although it is simple to find information on networking devices or software packages, it is not always easy to find details about the tools used by networking professionals. This appendix provides pictures of networking tools, some familiar and some probably unfamiliar, along with their proper names and uses. You can often find these tools together in toolkits with carrying cases. Some toolkit providers include: Aven Tools, Black Box, Curtis, Hawking Technologies, Paladin, and Siemon. Toolkits are sold in many computer supply stores, such as CompUSA and J and R Computer World, and through many computer supply Web sites, such as www.cdw.com, www.computers4sure.com, www.buycomp.com, and www.c-source.com.



Figure E-1 A networking professional's toolkit

Many of the tools used by networking professionals are similar or identical to tools used by electricians. Tools pictured in the following figures fall into this category.



Figure E-2 Soldering iron, solder, and solder wick; used for repairing connections



Figure E-3 Pliers; used for bending cable or components or working in tight spaces



Figure E-4 Screwdriver with several different head types; used for installing and uninstalling components



Figure E-5 Hex keyset; used for removing computer covers or components



Figure E-6 Pocket flashlights; used to illuminate the interior of devices



Figure E-7 Wire cutters

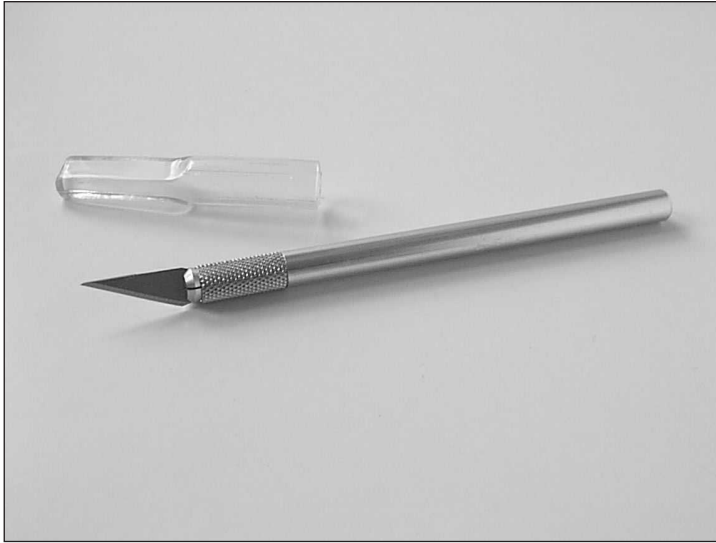


Figure E-8 Precision knife

Other tools used by networking professionals are unique to computer repair or telephony technicians. Tools pictured in the following figures fall into this category.



Figure E-9 Cable preparation tool, including wire stripper and cutter; used for preparing cable for termination



Figure E-10 Crimping tool; used for crimping wires into terminators



Figure E-11 Punch-down block tool; used for crimping wires into punch-down blocks

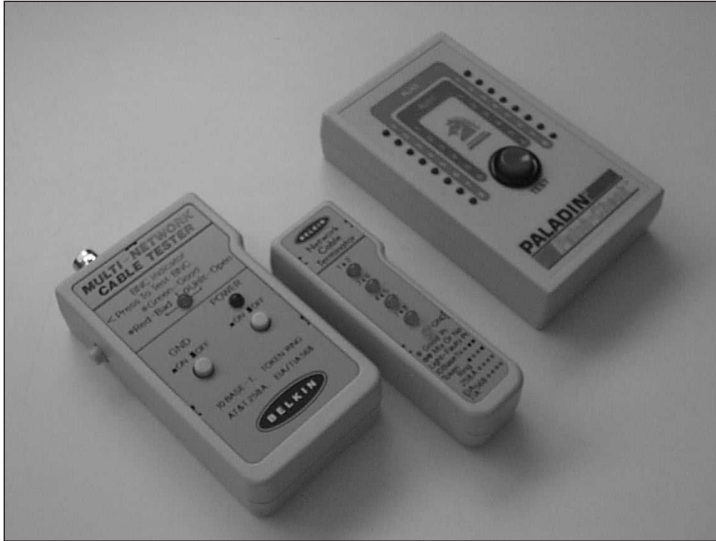


Figure E-12 Cable testing tools; used for verifying cable integrity



Figure E-13 Cable ties; used for holding bundles of cables together



Figure E-14 Magnetic extractor; used for retrieving small components



Figure E-15 Extractors; used for retrieving small components

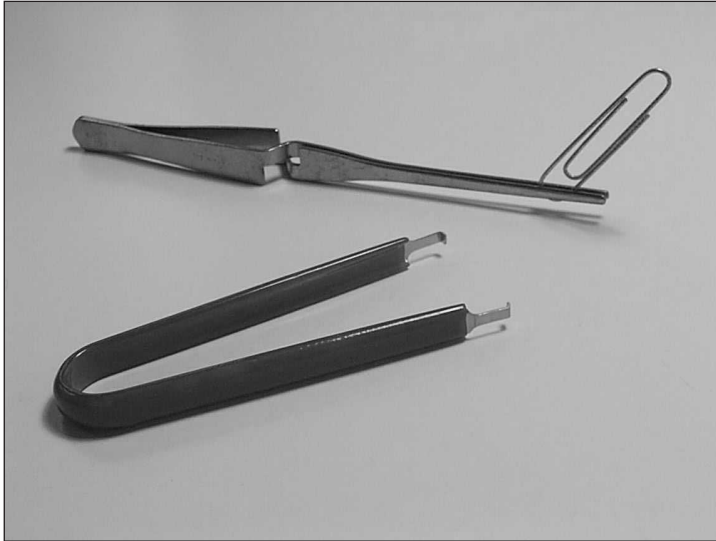


Figure E-16 Tweezers; used for holding and maneuvering small components



Figure E-17 Anti-static vacuum; used for cleaning electronic devices

